



**Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) South Africa Office
on behalf of
Initiative for Food and Nutrition in Africa (IFNA) Secretariat**

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)
FOR
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT**

IFNA REGIONAL CONSULTANCY FOR FRENCH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES IN AFRICA

1. INTRODUCTION

IFNA (Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa) was launched at the 6th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 6) in Nairobi, Kenya in 2016. It was established by African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) as co-chair organizations, together with other eight international institutions (AfDB, FAO, IFAD, JIRCAS, UNICEF, WFP, WHO and World Bank) as Steering Committee (SC) member organizations. IFNA Secretariat was set up in AUDA-NEPAD HQ in Midrand, South Africa.

This initiative aims to contribute to a comprehensive improvement in the nutrition status of Africa in line with the Second Sustainable Development Goal and the Malabo Declaration. Its objective, as described in IFNA Yokohama Declaration, is “to establish a framework for collaboration with African governments in order to accelerate the implementation of their food and nutrition security policies on the ground”.

IFNA is an initiative that to assist government’s effort to accelerate materialization of nutrition-related policies into nutrition improvement actions on the ground. To do this, IFNA focuses on three pillars of actions which are: i) nutrition advocacy particularly at high-level; ii) capacity development of key government staff and iii) promotion of multisectoral nutrition projects.

IFNA initially targeted ten countries (Senegal, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique and Madagascar). Then it was agreed to expand IFNA to all African countries at TICAD 7 in Yokohama in 2019. IFNA started engaging with Regional Economic Communities (RECs) under AU to cover the continent.

Since the establishment of IFNA Secretariat in July 2017, IFNA has done extensive work. A survey was conducted in each initial participating country to identify the food and nutrition security status as well as recommendations and suggestions for further planning. From February 2018, based on this survey as reference, IFNA facilitated relevant stakeholder in each country (government ministries at the national and provincial level from various sector and development partners) to draft an action plan called IFNA Country Strategy for Actions (ICSA).

IFNA has developed its technical approach called Nutrient Focused Approach (NFA) which promotes dietary diversity with focus in necessary nutrients to correspond to nutrition issues such as anemia.

Multi-Sectoral Approach (MSA) that IFNA promotes is, with NFA, to encourage in making sure the linkage with other sectors particularly health for efficient nutrition improvement with different stakeholders.

IFNA's next focus is to materialize and operationalize the government's policy and priorities in nutrition improvement as stipulated in ICSEA in the form of program and project with various stakeholders in different sectors that influence in nutrition improvement. In parallel to this, IFNA provides capacity development opportunities to the government staff in order for them to analyze, develop and implement effective nutrition interventions at the sub-national level.

IFNA is seeking a qualified consultant, IFNA Regional Consultant, to support implementing IFNA's activities at country level and be responsible for African countries (French-speaking countries), particularly the followings:

1. Burkina Faso
2. Chad
3. Madagascar
4. Senegal
5. Mauritania

Please note the above countries and the number of countries are subject to change, based on the needs identified.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The objective of the consultancy is to support IFNA implementation and other related nutrition program under the joint supervision of AUDA-NEPAD, JICA, and IFNA Secretariat.

Note: while the consultant will be jointly supervised, he/she will work based on a contract with JICA South Africa office.

3. DELIVERABLES

The consultancy will be expected to deliver, the following outputs:

- A) Progress report (monthly and annual basis) and participate on AUDA-NEPAD Nutrition weekly meetings for joint reporting;
- B) IFNA Workshop/training reports and documents as necessary;
- C) Regular technical reporting on the implementation of the AUDA-NEPAD Home Grown School feeding guidelines;
- D) Final and updated ICSEA or similar action plan in responsible countries;
- E) Action and resource map of nutrition actors in responsible countries;
- F) Draft, updated and final CNs and project proposals based on ICSEA or similar action plan;
- G) List of IFNA related projects in responsible countries.

4. QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND COMPETENCIES

The minimum qualification of the applicant is as follows:

- A) Education: Advanced university degree (Master or higher is desirable) from an accredited institution in nutrition, agriculture, food science, food technology or a closely related subject;
- B) Job experience: Minimum of five years of professional experience in food and nutrition improvement particularly in agriculture sector. Multisectoral nutrition programming and implementation among related sectors is highly desirable;
- C) Language requirement: Excellent written and verbal communication skills in French as well as English. Monthly Report has to be submitted in English. . Working knowledge of another AU official languages such as Arabic, Portuguese and other African languages are desirable.

5. SELECTION CRITERIA

For evaluation, the following criteria will be applied, in terms of technical aspects:

- i) Past experience and competence of the candidate relevant to the stated requirements of the project. (55 points);
- ii) Understanding of TOR and required work. (15 points); and
- iii) Approach, Methodology and Work Plan in the proposal which lead to the required outputs (30 points).

Please be advised that the prices are also considered for the evaluation, in addition to the above-mentioned technical criteria from i) to iii).

6. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Interested candidates are requested to submit the following documents for AUDA-NEPAD consideration:

- i. Technical Proposals Forms (including (1) Consultant's experience relevant to this consultancy Services, (2) Description of the Approach, Methodology and Work Plan for Performing this Assignment, and (3) Explanation on the Consultant)
- ii. Financial Proposals

For the detailed explanation, please confirm the Request for Proposals (RFPs) to be distributed to you after your Expression of Interest is submitted.

7. WORK LOCATION AND REPORTING:

In undertaking this assignment, the consultant will be homebased, expected to work remotely, and responsible for providing the IFNA Secretariat and AUDA-NEPAD with regular reports on the progress of the assignment.

8. Eligibility criteria:

- a) Have no conflict of interest in relationship to performance of this assignment;
- b) Are not subject to, and not controlled by any entity or individual that is subject to, a temporary suspension or a debarment imposed by the World Bank or any other multilateral development bank and being listed on the website <http://www.worldbank.org/debarr> or respectively on the relevant list of any other multilateral development bank. Further, are not ineligible pursuant to a decision of the United Nations Security Council;
- c) Have not been convicted by a final judgement or a final administrative decision or subject to financial sanctions by the United Nations or Country for involvement in a criminal organisation,

money laundering, terrorist-related offences, child labour or trafficking in human beings; this criterion of exclusion is also applicable to legal Persons, whose majority of shares are held or factually controlled by natural or legal Persons which themselves are subject to such convictions or sanctions;

- d) Are not being bankrupt, wound up or ceasing our activities, having our activities administered by courts, having entered receivership, reorganisation or being in any analogous situation;
- e) they have not been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organization or any other illegal activity detrimental to the financial interests of AUDA-NEPAD and/or JICA;
- f) they have not been declared guilty of gross professional misconduct proven by any means which AUDA-NEPAD and/or JICA can justify;

9. Expected Schedule:

- a) Deadline for *Expressions of Interest: 14:00pm(GMT+2), on February 4, 2022
Expression of Interest must be submitted to the address below by email.
- b) Distribution of Request for Proposals (RFPs): February 4, 2022
- c) Deadline for submission of Proposal: February 25, 2022
- d) Expected Commencement of the Contract: April 1, 2022

Note: This Contract is made annually and can be renewable up to maximum three (3) years, by March 2025, upon satisfactory performance.

- 1st Contract Period: Apr 2022- End of March 2023
- 2nd Contract Period: Apr 2023- End of March 2024
- 3rd Contract Period: Apr 2024- End of March 2025

10. Contact

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